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PATENT  
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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicant: Eino E. HAKALEHTO  
Appl. No.: 09/646,043  
Filed: September 13, 2000  
For: METHOD FOR DETECTING MICROBES FROM AN ENRICHMENT CULTURE

ATTENTION: Refund Section  
Accounting Division  
OFFICE OF FINANCE

REQUEST FOR A REFUND OF 50% OF THE FILING FEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

October 25, 2000

Sir:

The following documentation and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

DOCUMENTATION

Attached hereto is a copy of an executed Statement Claiming Small Entity Status (37 C.F.R. § 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) - Independent Inventor filed on even date herewith under separate cover.

REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(a), applicants hereby request a refund of 50% of the Filing Fee. Small entity status has been established by the filing of a statement on October 26, 2000.

AS-2001-2-1000

Appl. No. 09/646,043

Small entity applicants may now file the necessary Statement within two (2) months of the date of payment of any particular fee and request a refund. Attached hereto is a copy of the Statement Claiming Small Entity Status as an Independent Inventor. The present application qualifies for the reduced fees as implemented by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 1, 1982, and further amended on January 20, 1983.

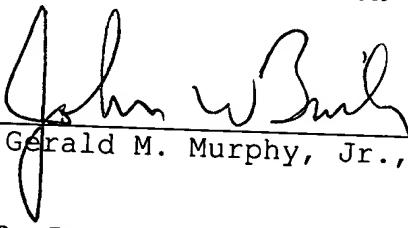
The present application was filed on September 13, 2000 with a filing fee of \$1,360.00. It is respectfully requested that the excess fee of \$680.00 be credited to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Favorable action on the present Request is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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*hml*  
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Attachments

(Rev. 04/19/2000)